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The following letter has been put together by three members of our youth mentors group who are on a long term, partially funded programme. Further information regarding the group and what we hope to achieve with these youngsters is attached.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to tell you about our mentoring group. We are 8 young people who meet regularly to develop our life skills and to become youth leaders and mentors to the younger children during the Craigmillar Youth Challenge summer programme.

We got some funding to allow us to do outdoor activities and a personal development course, which is taking place over 18 months.

We are trying to raise money for us to go on a challenging expedition, on the west coast of Scotland. The expedition would be a great experience and would strengthen us physically and mentally.

We hope the new experiences we get will help us gain new skills and confidence and this will help us get into college or work and do well.

We are asking local businesses to donate a small amount towards our expedition costs and we would be grateful for any amount you could give us.

Yours Sincerely,

Youth Mentors Group



The youth mentoring project is overseen by Craigmillar Adventure Project (CAPRO). Capro are a community based charitable organization based in Craigmillar. More information regarding Capro can be found on their website, www.capro.org.uk

The young people come from the Greater Craigmillar area, the majority of this area includes Craigmillar and Niddrie. The project is working closely with Castlebrae High School and local primary schools via The Craigmillar Youth Challenge local holiday activity programme.

Capro have employed a senior youth worker to oversee this project as well as a youth worker. We are also very grateful to the voluntary youth worker from Castlebrae High School who will be heavily involved with the project.

The programme will enhance self-esteem, confidence and self-worth as well as offering an alternative activity for these young people, diverting them away from getting involved in anti-social activities. The programme is also designed to improve the young people's emotional resilience.

8 young people are now involved with the project and we are currently working through a structured mentoring programme to enable them to mentor the younger age group who will take part in the Easter and Summer break CYC outings.

Whilst being involved with this project each member will have the chance to complete a Duke of Edinburgh Award and a Youth Achievement Award as well as various other outdoor related accreditations. The individuals have a chance to try out and gain a wealth of knowledge in a range of outdoor activities, this may eventually lead to further accreditation and allow these youngsters to help Capro with outdoor activity sessions in the future.

After the initial 12 months we aim to run a 6 month transition period to help those of school leaving age to develop interview skills and find college or work placements.

We are hoping to reward the efforts of these youngsters with an exciting expedition in the Western Highlands this coming August and are actively seeking donations to help cover the cost of this. We would be very grateful for any donation your business can contribute. Please send donations to the header address with an attached note stating your contribution and whether or not you would like your donation publicised.

Yours Sincerely,

Antony Stone
Senior Youth Worker